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THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU

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TM

HIGH OVER
MANHATTAN,
SHANG-CHI
BATTLES TO
SAVE THE
WORLD!



FU MANCHU
HAS ORDERED
YOUR **DEATH!**

I HEAR
AND
OBEY!

ZECK/DAY



"Call me Shang-Chi, as my father did, when he raised me in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. Since then, I have learned that my father is Dr. Fu Manchu, the most insidiously evil man on earth...and that to honor him would bring nothing but dishonor to the spirit of my name.

Stan Lee PRESENTS: MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER

WARRIORS OF THE GOLDEN DAWN

PART 6

"WE REACH THE ISLAND OF MANHATTAN, ONLY TO FIND AN INFERNO BEYOND..."



THE LEOPARD

AND THE DOVE



WHAT THE DEVIL--?

IT MUST BE THE OIL REFINERIES IN NEW JERSEY!

TUNE IN THE RADIO, BLACK JACK--A COMMERCIAL NEWS CHANNEL...

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"THERE ARE FIVE OF US: CLIVE RESTON, LEIKO WU, MYSELF, NAYLAND SMITH, AND BLACK JACK TARR. WE LISTEN..."

-- IRONIC IN THE FACE OF THE CURRENT ENERGY SHORTAGE, BUT THE WORST OIL DISASTER IN HISTORY IS NOW RAGING THROUGH THE EASTERN NEW JERSEY OIL STORAGE TANKS --

-- PRECISELY WHERE THE EASTERN SEABOARD'S GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF OIL SUPPLY IS LOCATED. OFFICIALS ARE NOT YET CERTAIN AS TO THE CAUSE OF THE BLAZE, BUT SABOTAGE IS SUSPECTED...

HMP. WELCOME TO AMERICA.

HURRY IT UP WITH THEM OTHER TRUCKS, WILL YA?!

ALL THAT PRECIOUS STUFF GOIN' UP IN SMOKE JUST WHEN WE NEED IT MOST!

WE GOT HIM--THIS IS THE FIREBUG THOSE WITNESSES CLAIM STARTED THE WHOLE THING!

WHAT?! BUT THAT'S SHERMAN WILKINS, THE MAN WHO'S BEEN IN CHARGE OF NIGHT OPERATIONS FOR --

WHAT THE--?! A WIG--AND THOSE THINGS IN HIS HEAD! THEY LOOK LIKE... LIKE ELECTRODES OR SOMETHING... IMPLANTED DIRECTLY INTO HIS BRAIN! BUT WHO COULD HAVE DONE SUCH A THING--?!

QUICKLY.

WE ARE ALMOST FINISHED, CELESTIAL ONE. IT WILL BE SET WITHIN MINUTES.

CELESTIAL FU MANCHU...

EH?

I COME TO MAKE A REPORT.

AH! IT IS YOU, MARU! HOW DO YOU FEEL? DO THE ELECTRODES CAUSE ANY DISCOMFORT?

NO, CELESTIAL ONE. I FEEL NOTHING BUT A HEIGHTENED SENSE OF CLARITY AND AWARENESS.

THEN THE ELECTRODES ARE FUNCTIONING PERFECTLY, AND WITH THIS ELECTRONIC CONSOLE, I CAN INCREASE YOUR STRENGTH AND SPEED, EVEN ELIMINATE YOUR CAPACITY FOR FEELING PAIN...

NOW WHAT IS YOUR REPORT, MARU?

AS YOU INSTRUCTED, CELESTIAL ONE, A SELECT GROUP OF THE WARRIORS OF THE GOLDEN DAWN ARE STATIONED AT THE ENTRANCE TO WATCH FOR FAH LO SUEE.

GOOD. TELL THEM TO KILL HER ON SIGHT.

WHAT?! F-FORGIVE ME, CELESTIAL ONE, BUT... BUT I THOUGHT SHE--

SHE HAS DECEIVED ME FOR MOST OF HER LIFE, AS I HAVE KNOWN ALL ALONG. SHE WILL NOT CHANGE NOW.

I HAVE KEPT HER IN MY "SERVICE" ONLY LONG ENOUGH TO LEARN WHOM SHE TRULY SERVES NOW. I KNOW IT IS THE WOULD-BE FUTURE LEADERS OF MI-6...

...AND SO, SHE MUST DIE. AND SO, TOO IF IT COMES TO THAT, MUST MY SON DIE. EVEN SHANG-CHI IS EXPENDABLE WHEN THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS THE PRIZE.

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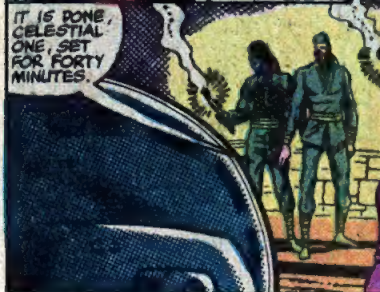
-- FIREMEN AND POLICE FROM AS FAR AWAY AS MANHATTAN HAVE BEEN CALLED TO THE SCENE OF THE BLAZE --

-- LEAVING NEW YORK WEAKENED, NEARLY DEFENSELESS --



-- AGAINST WHATEVER FU MANCHU IS PLANNING.

IT IS DONE, CELESTIAL ONE, SET FOR FORTY MINUTES.



THEN... IN FORTY MINUTES...



... NEW YORK CITY SHALL BE DESTROYED... FROM BELOW...

THEN YOU THINK FU ENGINEERED THE JERSEY DISASTER AS A DIVERSION AWAY FROM HIS REAL HIT ON NEW YORK?



YES, BLACK JACK, AND WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT FAN SUEE WAS CORRECT ABOUT HER MEETING WITH FU MANCHU HERE-- AT PIER 23.



"... BY THUNDER AND FIRES RISING UP FROM A HELL OF MY MAKING."

OF COURSE, I SHALL SEE TO IT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE BLAMED.



NOW COME-- WE MUST MEET MY SHOCK-IMAGES AT THE RENDEZVOUS SITE FOR ESCAPE... TO WAIT OUT THE APOCALYPSE OF WORLD WAR III.



"THE PIER GROANS UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE CEASELESS SEA..."

NO ONE HERE, MAYBE FAH LO SUEE SET US UP.

WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST THE WITCH.

"A NEW SOUND--"

"--FROM BEHIND... BUT IT IS ONLY MY SISTER."

SO, NAYLAND SMITH WE MEET AGAIN, BOTH STRIVING FOR THE DOWNFALL OF MY FATHER, BUT NEITHER WILLING TO AID THE OTHER IN THE COMMON CAUSE.

BACK IN LONDON -- TO GIVE THE LOCATION OF MY FATHER'S SOUTH AMERICAN BASE TO M-6. THEY WILL LAUNCH A STRIKE FORCE TO CRIPPLE HIS GROUND-TO-SATELLITE INSTALLATION, CUTTING HIS CONTROL OVER THE INFILTRATORS PLANTED AROUND THE WORLD.

FU MANCHU HAS LONG SINCE DENIED US THE OPTION OF ALLIANCE, FAH LO SUEE, BUT... WHERE IS KARAMEHAH?

GOOD--AND LYMAN LEEKS HAS A LIST OF THE INFILTRATOR'S IDENTITIES.

THEY CAN BE LOCATED LATER FOR REMOVAL OF THEIR ELECTRODE IMPLANTS BUT RIGHT NOW, WE MUST STOP FU MANCHU'S NEW YORK GAMBIT. ARE YOU CERTAIN HE SAID TO MEET HIM HERE?

YES, BUT I AM BEGINNING TO SUSPECT IT MAY BE A--

--TRAP.

UHN--!

GOOD LORD!!

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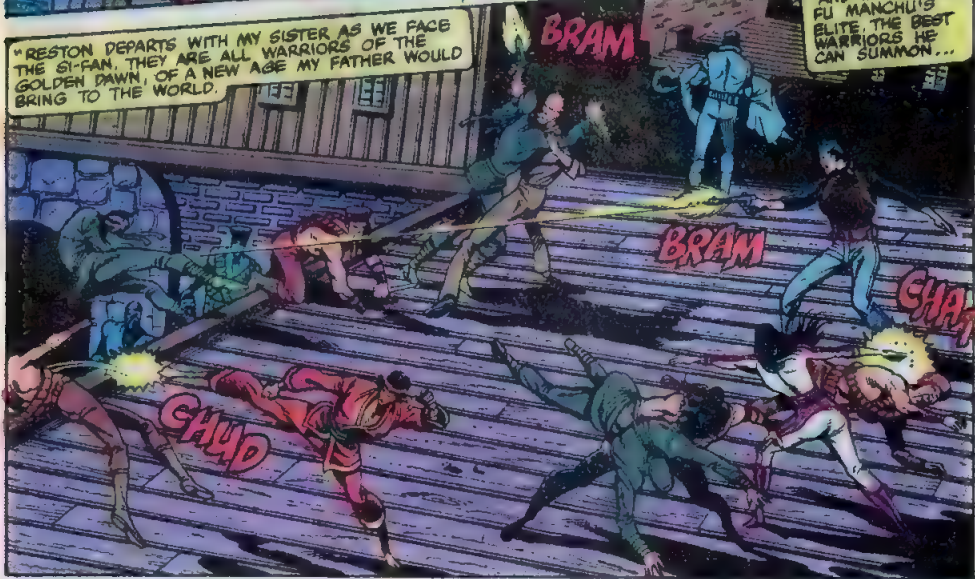
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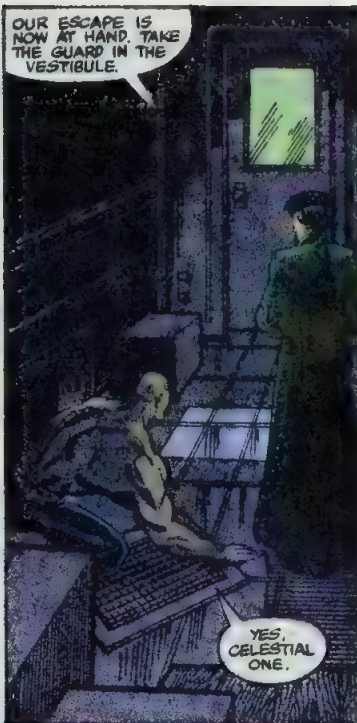
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THE SI-FAN. THEY ARE ALL WARRIORS OF THE
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WARRIORS HE
CAN SUMMON..."



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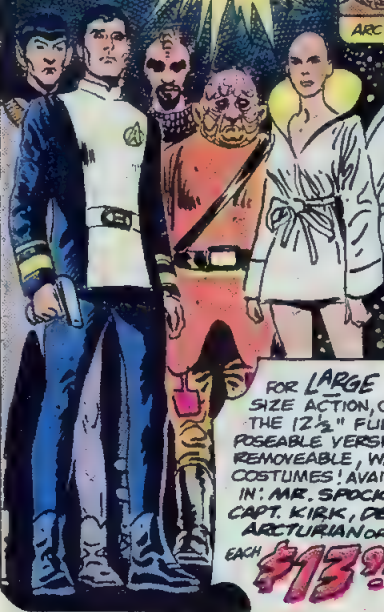
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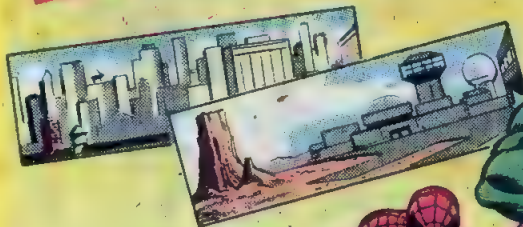
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LOYALTY, AND CAN
BE TURNED ON
THEIR FORMER
MASTERS..."

"...BY ONE WHO IS
A TRUE MASTER.

WOKT

"THOSE WHO STILL CAN, FLEE FOR THE CONDUIT..."

AFTER THEM,
LADS!

"ZARAN, THE WEAPONS
MASTER, IS THE FIRST TO
FOLLOW ME, EAGER TO
AVENGE THE KNIFE
HURLED IN HIS LOVER'S
BACK. I LOATHE THE
MAN..."

QUICKLY--
THEY'LL
LEAD US
TO FU
MANCHU!!

"...BUT WHAT
MY SISTER
DOES HAS
NEVER BEEN
MY CONCERN.

"WE ENTER THE SEWERS AND THE STENCH BREATHES WITH A VILE LIFE OF ITS OWN."

"IF IT IS FROM HERE THAT MY FATHER WOULD CREATE HIS NEW WORLD, THEN, TRULY, HE MUST BE DESTROYED."

"THE TUNNEL OPENS INTO A LARGER CHAMBER AND SMITH HALTS BEFORE A GLEAMING DEVICE ALIEN TO THE SURROUNDING FILTH."

BLACK JACK,
YOU STAY HERE--

GOOD LORD--A NUCLEAR BOMB! AND IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S ENOUGH MEGA-TONNAGE TO DESTROY THE ENTIRE CITY!

--HELP ME TRY TO DISMANTLE THE THING-- AND I PRAY THAT I STILL REMEMBER MY TRAINING FROM THE C.I.D.

THE REST OF YOU, KEEP AFTER THEM-- YOU MUST FIND AND STOP FU MANGHU!

IT'S ON A TIMER, BLACK JACK, SET TO DETONATE IN LESS THAN 30 MINUTES!

WHAT DO WE DO, SIR DENIS?

FIRST WE MUST REMOVE THE HOUSING PLATES...

SHANG, I DON'T HAVE MY GUN-- I LOST IT INTO THE WATER OFF THE PIER.

WEAPONS ARE FOR THE WEAK, LEIKO...

"ZARAN, A MASTER OF WEAPONRY, SAYS NOTHING. I HAVE BEATEN HIM, WITH-OUT WEAPONS, TWICE IN THE PAST."

FOLLOW ME, LEIKO-- BUT STAY CLOSE TO ZARAN.

"FROM EXPERIENCE, I KNOW THAT HE WILL TAKE FEWER RISKS THAN I."

"ABOVE THE STREET THE GOLDEN DAWN WARRIORS RACE FOR THE REARER OF TWO IDENTICAL BUILDINGS--BUILDINGS LARGER THAN ANY I HAVE EVER SEEN..."



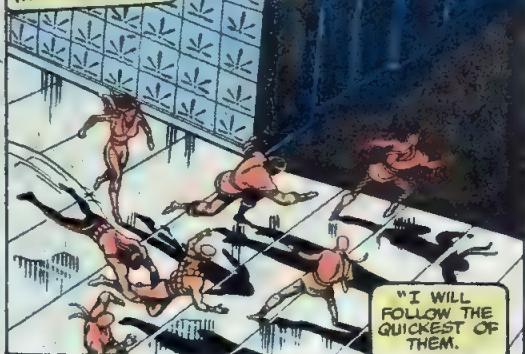
"THEY DO NOT BOTHER WITH DOORS."



"WE'RE AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER, SHANG!"

"THEN, ALTHOUGH THE NAME MEANS NOTHING TO ME, LEIKO KNOWS THE PLACE. STILL, THE BENEFIT OF HER KNOWLEDGE IS NOT WORTH THE RISK TO HER LIFE..."

"ZARAN AND LEIKO CAN DEAL WITH THE OTHERS."



"I WILL FOLLOW THE QUICKEST OF THEM."



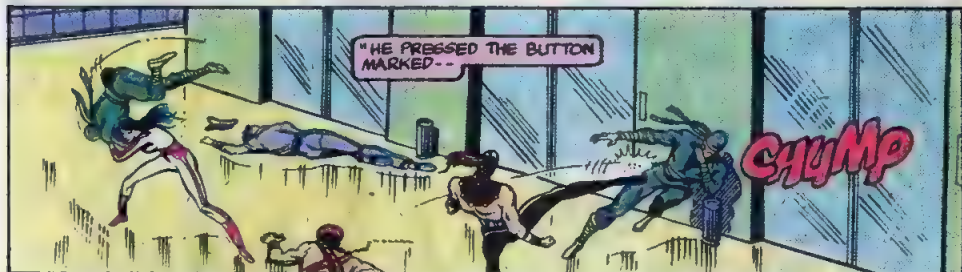
"A GUARD LIES BEFORE ONE OF THE ELEVATORS. MY FATHER HAS BEEN HERE."

STAY WITH ZARAN, LEIKO! DO NOT FOLLOW ME!



"I LEAP INSIDE AS THE DOORS BEGIN TO CLOSE."

NO.

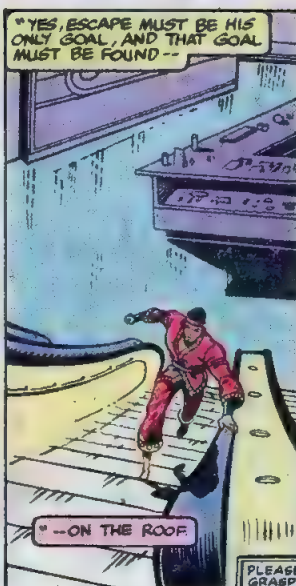


"HE PRESSED THE BUTTON MARKED--"

CHUMP



"--OBSERVATION DECK... BUT THERE IS LITTLE TO OBSERVE. WHAT COULD MY FATHER HOPE TO DO HERE... UNLESS IT IS MERELY TO ESCAPE BEFORE THE BOMB DETONATES?"



"YES, ESCAPE MUST BE HIS ONLY GOAL, AND THAT GOAL MUST BE FOUND--"

"--ON THE ROOF"

PLEASE GRAB



LESS THAN TWENTY MINUTES, SIR DENIS.

I KNOW, BLACK JACK, I KNOW. I'M TRYING TO REMEMBER... BUT THESE THINGS HAVE CHANGED...

GUMFIGHTING DO'S AND DON'TS.

1.



2.

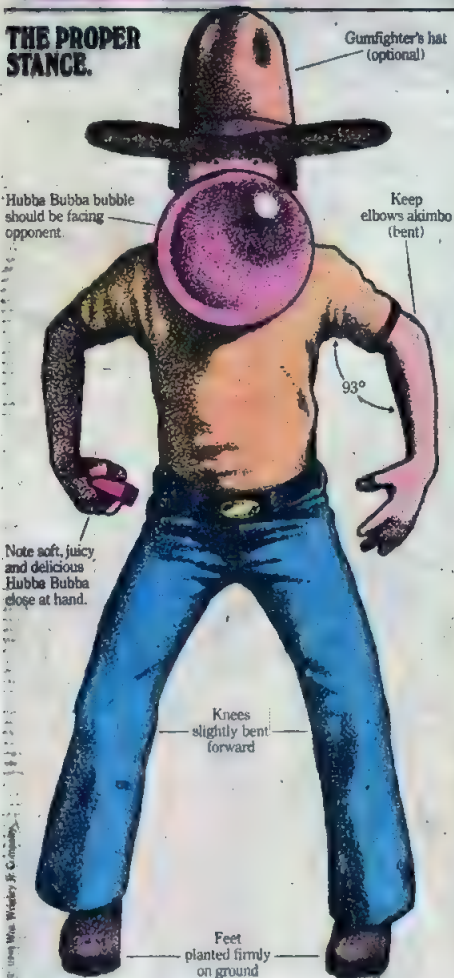


3.



The first thing to do—pick the right chew: Hubba Bubba®. The soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles.™ Then proceed with this simple yet effective gumfight drill: (1) Begin blowing bubble. Note Hubba Bubba's incredibly large bubble. (2) When the Hubba Bubba bubble breaks do not be alarmed. (3) Simply remove Hubba Bubba from your face. That's right, simply remove and replace in mouth. Return to step 1. Repeat drill ten times.

THE PROPER STANCE.



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Big guy blowing little bubble.



Little guy blowing big Hubba Bubba bubble.



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Note proper stance.

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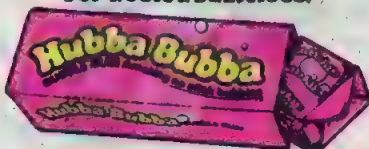
This boy did. And now instead of wearing a smile, he's wearing a paper bag over the bubble gum stuck to his face. Definitely not soft and juicy Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Does Hubba Bubba really work? Absolutely! Hubba Bubba is gumfighter tested and approved.

DADGUM MY BUBBLEGUM!



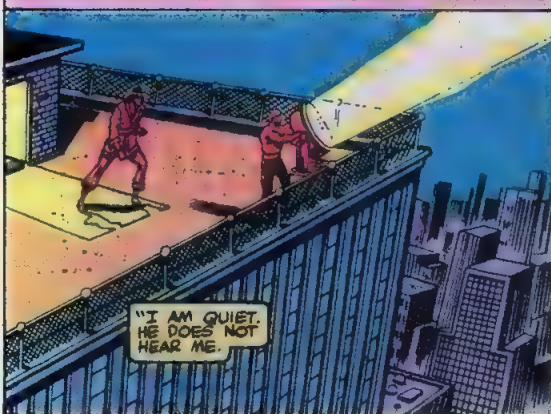
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"ON THE ROOF A LARGE MAN OPERATES A BEACON, SWEEPING THE SKY WITH CRYPTIC SIGNS, SIGNALING AGENTS UNKNOWN. BUT ONE FACT IS CLEAR: HE SERVES FU MANCHU."



"I AM QUIET. HE DOES NOT HEAR ME."

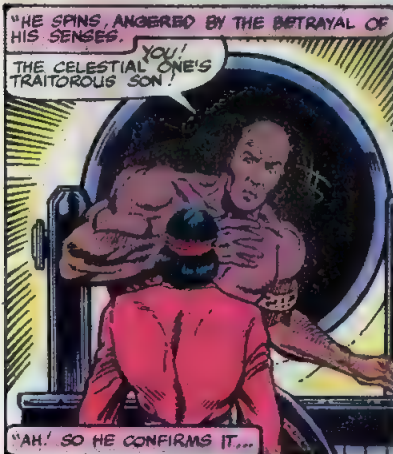
"SO I SPEAK TO HIM..."

WHERE IS MY FATHER?



"HE SPINS, ANGERED BY THE BETRAYAL OF HIS SENSES."

YOU! THE CELESTIAL ONE'S TRAITOROUS SON!



"AH! SO HE CONFIRMS IT..."

"MY FATHER IS NEAR."



KLIK

I... AM... MARU...



IT IS MY DUTY TO...

--SLAY YOU!!

"I DO NOT GIVE HIM THE CHANCE."



WUMP

"STRANGELY, HE IGNORES THE PAIN. AND SO... I MUST TEST MY WEAKNESS AND MY MASTERY..."

VERY WELL, MARU.



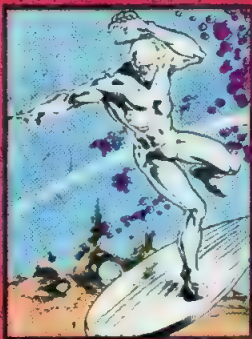
"...BY EMPLOYING THE MUNCHAKS FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS NIGHT."

SLAY ME.



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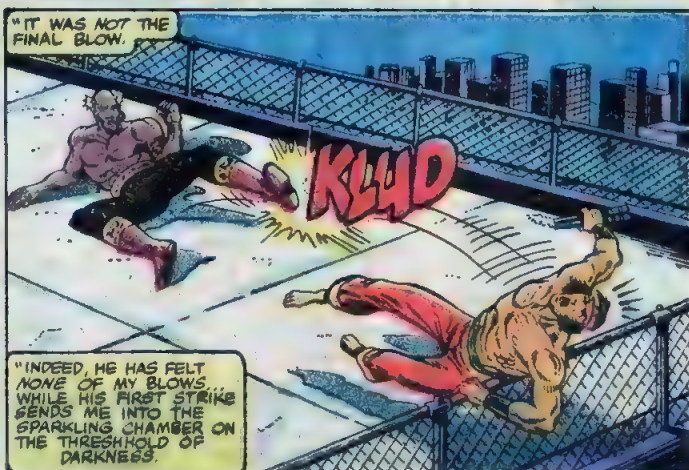
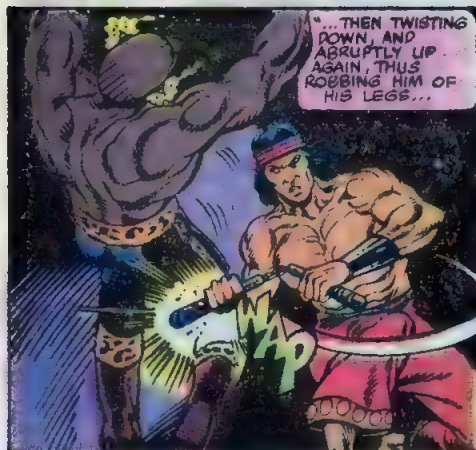
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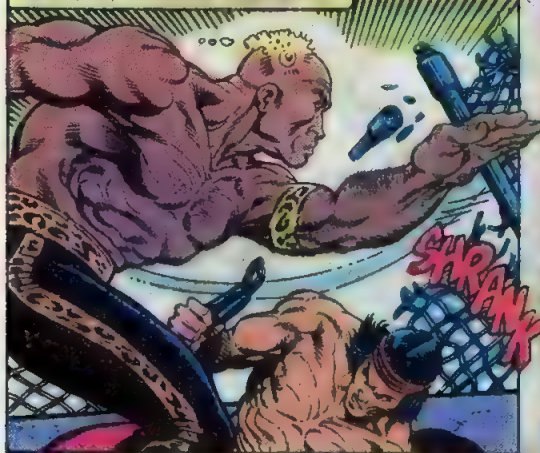
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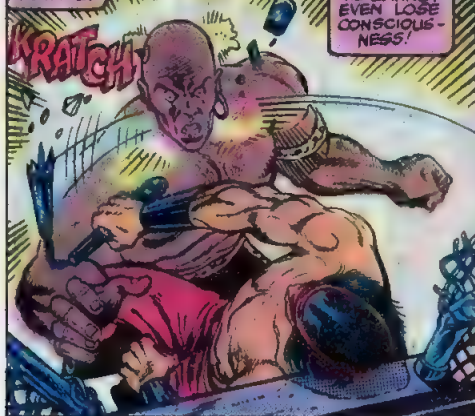
"IT IS MY FATHER'S DOING-- THE ELECTRODES IN HIS HEAD-- TAPPING AND SPARKING HIS MIND, DENYING NATURAL REACTIONS, SUPPLYING FALSE ONES..."



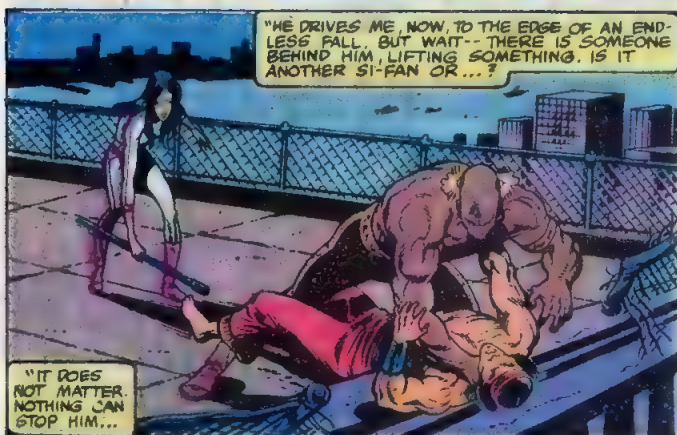
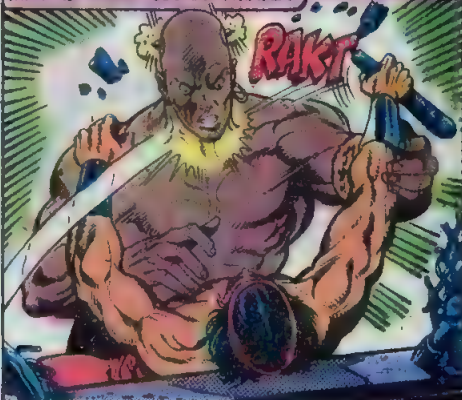
"HIS MIND HAS BEEN STRIPPED OF THE ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE PAIN."



"NOTHING!"



"AS SOON AS HIS SENSES SEEK DARKNESS, HIS MIND IS AGAIN JOLTED AWARE!"



"THE TASK MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE, BLACK JACK. I'M AFRAID NOTHING CAN STOP THIS BOMB..."



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- 1) THE NEWSSTAND OWNER HAS AN ANCHOVY IN HIS SHIRT POCKET THAT GLID OFF HIS PIZZA AT BREAKFAST.
- 2) ALL THE TRAINS ARE LEAVING ON SCHEDULE. THAT MAY NOT BE WRONG, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY UNUSUAL.
- 3) THE OLD WOMAN'S 1923 PERFUME TURNED SOUR IN THE BOTTLE AND SMELLS LIKE EGG SALAD FLOATING IN GASOLINE.
- 4) THE MAN IN THE SUIT BOUGHT EVERY COPY OF MARVEL COMICS ON THE STAND! THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT, BUT THE OLD WOMAN WAS THERE FIRST!

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"NO! IT IS LEIKO--STRIKING HIM WITH A SECTION OF THE SHATTERED FENCE! HE MUST FALL! NO ONE CAN WITHSTAND A BLOW OF SUCH FORCE--!"



"BUT HE DOES--AND HE WILL STRIKE BACK AT HER, AGAIN AND AGAIN, UNTIL EVERY BONE IN HIS HANDS AND ARMS HAS BEEN BROKEN--AND THEN HE WILL STRIKE YET AGAIN."



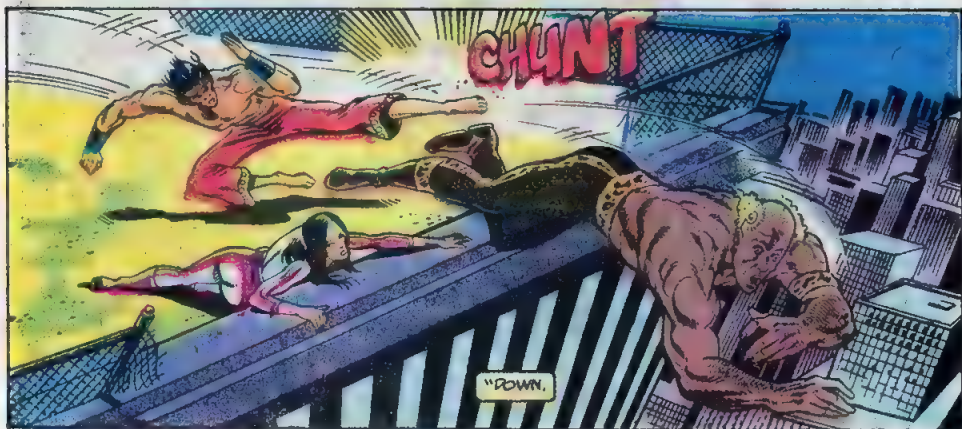
"... BUT IT IS FUTILE AGAINST AN UNTIRING, UNSTOPPABLE OPPONENT..."



"... AGAINST ONE WHO CANNOT KNOW THAT HE HAS ALREADY BEEN BEATEN SENSELESS TIME AND AGAIN."



"IT IS THE ONLY WAY."



"IT IS A SHOCKING SIGHT, ALL THE MORE SO FOR ITS STRANGE, SAD, AND SILENT BEAUTY: HE LOOKS LIKE A GENTLY FLOATING DOVE..."

YOU MOVED WELL, LEIKO... LIKE A CAT, A SLEEK LEOPARD.

WHO... WHO WAS HE, SHANG?

MARU... A MAN WHO WAS ALREADY DEAD HIS MIND AND SPIRIT SLAIN BY MY FATHER.

AS SOON AS WE FINISHED THE SI-FAN IN THE VESTIBULE, HE WENT TO FIND FAN LO GUEE. I DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO STOP HIM--I WANTED TO GET UP HERE TO HELP YOU...

WHERE IS ZARAN?

...TO TELL YOU THAT I'M SORRY FOR WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN ME AND OLIVE. I DON'T WANT IT TO DIVIDE US, SHANG. I CAN'T BEAR--

"GAS!--AND BRIGHT STRANGE LIGHTS FROM ABOVE....!"

SS
HH
HH

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Big news, Believers! You long-time Marvel maniacs who keep track of who's who among our editorial staff will get a real charge outta this! For reasons too complicated to explain, (which is, of course, a shameless euphemism for "we haven't got the time") we've done another editorial flip-flop and come up with a real treat for you! I'm delighted to announce that none other than good ol' Archie Goodwin has been given the position of Executive Editor of our soon-to-be-unveiled magazine masterpiece, the much-heralded, long-awaited EPIC ILLUSTRATED! Yep, it means I'll once again be working with Artful Archie, just as I did when he was Editor-in-Chief of all our Marvel color comicbooks! Of course, that was before Jolly Jim Shooter replaced him when Archie resigned to devote himself to freelance writing. And, if thou hast managed to follow the twisted and tortuous peripatations of this convoluted little paragraph, thou mayest most assuredly here-with consider thyself thrice No-Prized!

But, all kidding aside, "I didn't know he was kidding!" "It sure didn't sound funny to me!" "If that's his idea of kidding, I'd hate to read 'im when he's

serious!" (Okay, okay, shaddup already!) — it's really a kick to welcome one of our favorite alumni aboard once again. Archibald, who sports the craziest and most colorful collection of funky sneakers you've ever seen, is justifiably considered one of the finest writers and editors in the field, (not indoors, just in the field!) not to mention the fact that he's one of the nicest guys we know. Of course, next to the rest of the staff, even Doc Doom would seem nice! (I might as well offend everybody! It's one way to find out if anyone's actually reading this mishmash!)

Well, let's call it a day now, 'cause I know how emotional and choked-up this announcement has made you. But try to keep cool — don't be too impatient — a month isn't really that long a time, and before you know it I'll be back with you again to continue bestowing these words of wisdom and comfort to help guide you through the savage and stormy seas of life! (NOW do you see why they don't ask me to write any more stories?)

Till next hist then, keep well, keep happy, and most of all — keep in touch, hear?

Excelsior!

Stan

Marvel Masterpieces on sale this month!

- **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #63** — "Suffer Not A Warlock To Live!" The return (?) of Adam Warlock as the Thing teams up with Moondragon and Starhawk!
- **SHOGUN WARRIORS #16** — Shogun Sanctuary is destroyed by a mysterious alien intelligence!
- **SPIDER-WOMAN #26** — Spider-Woman menaced by the macabre White Genies!
- **STAR TREK #2** — The tension mounts as Marvel's adaptation of the Paramount Pictures stellar spectacular continues.
- **SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #46** — Spidey-teams up with the Fantastic Four, checks out the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, and generally has more adventures than you can shake a web at.
- **DAREDEVIL #104** — Daredevil is confronted by a reporter who knows the secret of his dual identity!
- **MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #68** — Re-presenting incredible Hulk #138. Hulk vs. Sandman for the life of Betty Ross!
- **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #204** — The return of the beautiful Black Cat.
- **CAPTAIN AMERICA #246** — Cap teams up with Aaron Hunter, stalker of Nazi war criminals.
- **MARVEL TEAM-UP #93** — Spider-Man and Werewolf By Night in spine-tingling duo action against the terrifying Tatterdemalion!
- **MAN-THING #4** — Guest-starring the Master of the Mystic Arts... Doctor Strange!
- **MICRONAUTS #17** — Climax of the Micronauts/Fantastic Four team-up against the mind-boggling menace of Psycho-Man!

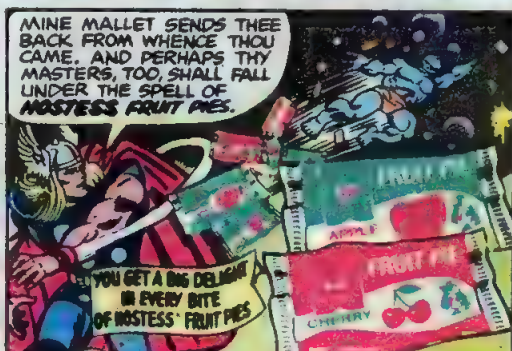
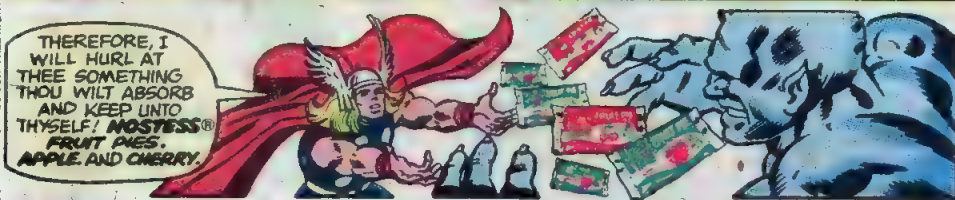
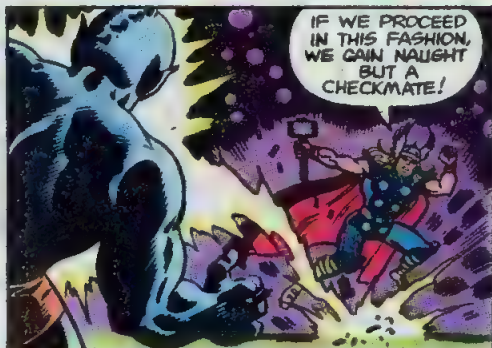
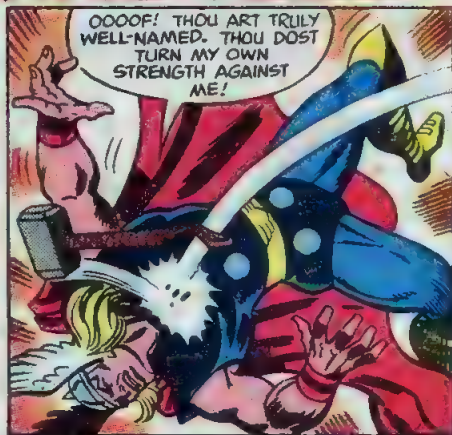
- **GHOST RIDER #44** — The battle that couldn't happen — Johnny Blaze vs. Ghost Rider... To The Death!
- **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #15** — Who is the mysterious passenger on the monster-menaced "Space Lifeboat"?
- **SAVAGE SHE-HULK #4** — She-Hulk fights for her life against a foe she must not defeat — her father!
- **MARVEL FUN AND GAMES #9** — Enough riddles, puzzles, mazes and games to keep any Marvelite amused and bemused for hours.
- **INCREDIBLE HULK #247** — In the sub-atomic world where he is hailed a hero, the Green Goliath is pitted against the power of the grim Gerdner!
- **AVENGERS #195** — Ant-Man, Yellowjacket and the Wasp on a suicide rescue mission into the lair of... Task-Master!
- **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #6** — "The Saga of Star-Lord!" All new! The space-master's origin — and his color comic debut.
- **SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP #17** — The world trembles in horror as the Red Skull, the Hate Monger and Arnim Zola attempt to re-create the dreaded Cosmic Cube!
- **CONAN #110** — Part II of the adaptation of "Sons of the Bear God!" by Norvell Page. Marvel's foremost barbarian in blood-tingling action!
- **THOR #295** — Thor, Loki, and Odin in pitched battle against the Storm Giants and Alberich the Troll as the quest for the Ring of Power begins.
- **MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #68** — Reprising Fantastic Four #108. The incredible secret of... Janus!

- **MARVEL TALES #115** — Originally presented in Amazing Spider-Man #138. Enter: The Mindworm!
- **X-MEN #133** — Wolverine in solo action against the Hellfire Club.
- **TALES TO ASTONISH #6** — From the Mighty Marvel Archives: Sub-Mariner #6. Showdown with Tiger Shark!
- **ROM #6** — Rom vs. the telepathic bloodhounds of the Dire Wraiths. Plus: more on the fate of Firefall!
- **FANTASY MASTERPIECES #6** — Re-presenting Silver Surfer #6. The Surfer vs. the Overlord in "Worlds Without End!"
- **FANTASTIC FOUR #218** — The far-out finale to the story begun in Peter Parker #42. Showdown with the Frightful Four!
- **IRON MAN #134** — "The Strange Secret of... the Other!"
- **PETER PARKER #42** — The Spectacular Spider-Man fights for his life against the Wizard, Electro, the Sandman, and the Trapster — aka: The Frightful Four!
- **DEFENDERS #63** — Lo! There shall come and ending to the Tunnelworld saga! And what an ending it is! Featuring a duel to the death in the mind of the Hulk!
- **MARVEL SUPER-ACTION #19** — Reprising Avengers #68: the classic "Even an Android Can Cry!" The origin of the amazing Vision!
- **AMAZING ADVENTURES #6** — Re-presenting X-Men #3 "In Final Battle With the Blob!" Plus: a special feature on the powers of Cyclops.
- **STAR WARS #36** — At last! Luke stands face-to-face with Darth Vader! Plus: the mystery of Sister Dima!
- **MASTER OF KUNG FU #68** — "The Legend of the Dove!" Fu Manchu's plot to blow up New York!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #51** — "Satyr's Blood!" Part III of Marvel's adaptation of "Conan the Liberator!" by DeCamp & Carter.
- **MARVEL PREVIEW #21** — Featuring the mysterious Moon Knight. With a title like "Mindthieves!" you know it's gotta be weird! Plus a solo tale of the sensational Shroud, drawn by Steve Ditko!
- **TOMB OF DRACULA #4** — "Angelical!" A moody, windswept saga of human failure and inhuman horror as Dracula chooses for his victims... two small children! Plus: "Death Vow!" Also, interviews, features, and more!
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- **CRAZY #61** — **SUPER-SPECIAL!** Choice classics featuring the work of ADAMS, SEVERIN, WOLFMAN, VAUGH BODE, and other greats. Plus, the ALL-NEW Ideato Test Parody by STEVE SKIDAH!

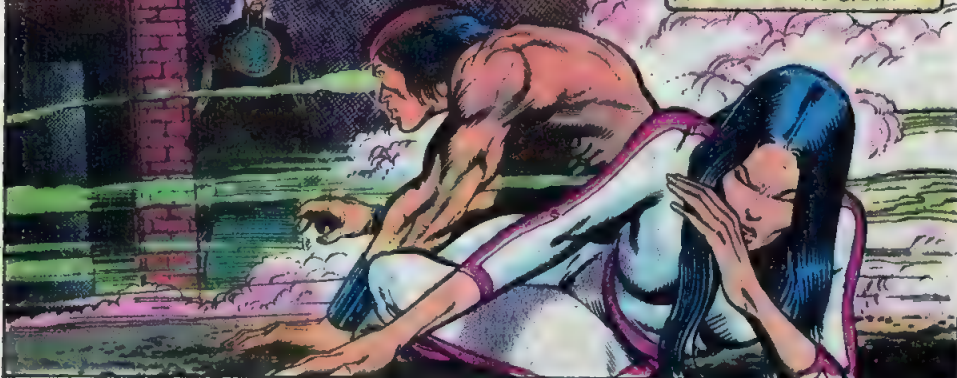
"THOR MEETS THE RICOCHET MONSTER!"



"I HOLD MY BREATH... AS MY FATHER GLIDES FROM THE SHADOWS..."

IT IS THE DISTILLATE OF MY MOTHER, MY SON. BREATHE IT... BREATHE IT DEEPLY AND KNOW THE LONG SLEEP OF FOREVER.

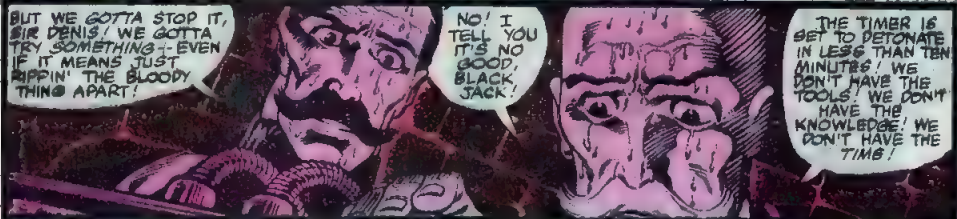
"NO! THE DIZZINESS SWARMS AT ME AS IT IS-- MUSTN'T INHALE-- MUST NOT BREATHE ANY MORE OF THE GAS...!"



BUT WE GOTTA STOP IT, SUE DENIS! WE GOTTA TRY SOMETHING-- EVEN IF IT MEANS JUST RIPPIN' THE BLOODY THING APART!

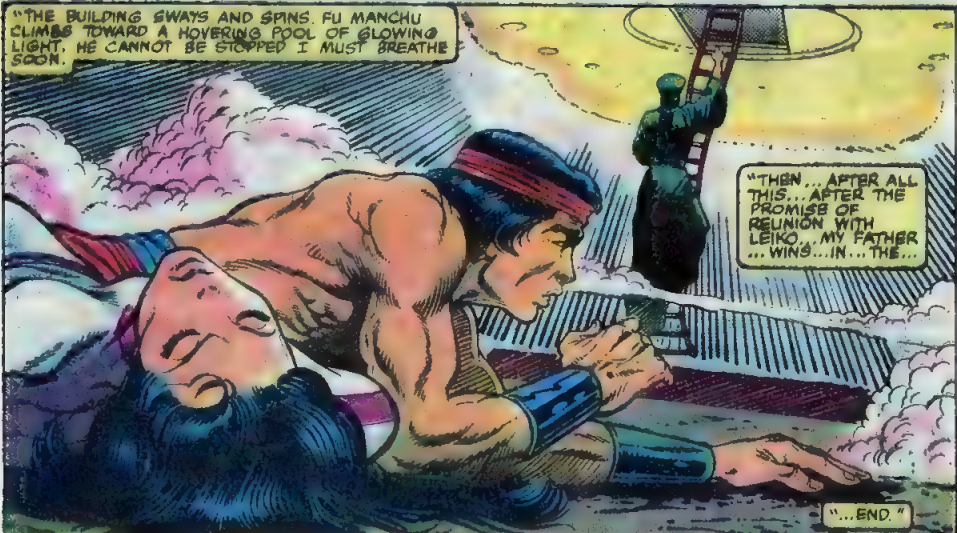
NO! I TELL YOU IT'S NO GOOD, BLACK JACK!

THE TIMER IS SET TO DETONATE IN LESS THAN TEN MINUTES! WE DON'T HAVE THE TOOLS! WE DON'T HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE! WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME!



"THE BUILDING SWAYS AND SPINS. FU MANCHU CLIMBS TOWARD A HOVERING POOL OF GLOWING LIGHT. HE CANNOT BE STOPPED I MUST BREATHE SOON."

"THEN... AFTER ALL THIS... AFTER THE PROMISE OF REUNION WITH LEIKO MY FATHER... WINS... IN... THE..."



"...END."

**NEXT
ISSUE:**

THE EPIC CONCLUSION
--A SEQUENCE OF
EVENTS BOTH STAG-
GERING IN SCOPE
AND SHOCKING IN
POWER! IT IS CALLED...

DRAGONS!

MISSIVES TO THE MASTER!

470 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

JIM SALICRUP
EDITOR
BOB SUDIANSKY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Doug,

"Tarr liked that car."

Hah! Brilliant, Doug! A masterstroke! Beyond the side-splittingly understated humor of that remark — beyond it being the perfect comic relief after so much violence, confusion, and chaos — beyond it being a welcome change of pace from Tarr and Reston getting all the funny lines — it finally and eloquently speaks volumes about the Westernization of Shang-Chi. Three years ago, that sort of dry humor would have been unthinkable. But now it seems so natural I barely realized what you were saying.

Looking good, Doug. Thank you.

Kirk Daniel Messmer
The Lawyer's Club
561 S. State St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

And thank you, Kirk, for the concisely controlled letter. Grounded as it is in a more linear cerebral reality, we decided it would form the perfect bridge of contrast to our next letter, a missive of somewhat... um... looser connections...

Dear Doug and Mike,

The easiest thing for a writer to do is to let his imagination loose among his work. This normally proves successful (yamma yamma), as the reader tries to unwind the enigmatic parts from the downright weird hallucinations (ever heard Bowie's *Station to Station*?) and you've been letting loose a lot lately. Admittedly, your imagination and its resultant creations are more creative? Innovative? Original? than that of normal people, and there you have it. Yet I'm not saying you've taken the easy way out, not by a long way. Apart from the fact that your characters (pleasantly sprung from insanity) are appealing in their own right, your total fantasy is (or seems to be anyway) painstakingly projected on a backdrop of firm reality (oops, there goes that word again), so, while we have a bloody entertaining and immensely enjoyable story, you still remind us of what the characters/plots are "all about." Shockwave, for example. And you started off Brynrock's latest lunatic tale with the stunningly real "Nighttimes." Yet you never let us forget Brynrock's (Mordillo's?) sense of humor — for example, by giving us that amazing last line of dialogue: "Think I'll just go somewhere and rust." Love it, love it, love it!

So after that, what do we expect? An enthralling story full of mystery, wizened Chinese ancients, brutal fights, nervous breakdowns and a truly incredible climax. You also promised an "extended fight sequence not gonna believe it etc., etc." for ish #77. Sorry, but I thought the Black Jack Demon-Masks thingie was more fun and exciting to watch/read mainly because, although Mike draws the blocks, snap punches, kicks etc. well enough, Shang's whole body seemed somehow out of place; nonfluidity rules. Ho-hum. Must say, though, Zaran hurling his knives looked spectacular — congrats. Anyway, since you have "master of kung fu" on the cover of the comic, the action shots should always be kung fu/karate oriented. Otherwise the art was great.

Then #'s 78 and 79. Wow. Al Gordon is/was a fantastic inker. Dark and gloomy, suiting the Scottish Highland perfectly. (Lay off the Medieval/Victorian doctor though, will ya!)

And here Mike's art attained the true motion of kung fu and the other martial arts, but surely if Shang throws his body behind a kick it should take the man out, so to speak. Unless Zaran's mask is reinforced, or his head is steel, Shang's kicks ain't what they used to be. Ho-hum.

Anyways — Mike's drawings seem to have taken a good leap forward in these two issues, and allowing for the time gap between this writing and what will later be now (around five issues, or is it 7?), they should be even better.

There's loads more to say but I haven't the time and you haven't the space. God, Doug and Mike, your comic's good, I hate you.

Matthew Frost
30, St. Ilyds Close
Baglan Port Talbot
West Glam. South Wales

Uh... sure, Matt. If you say so.

Dear Guys,

I love comics. There's just something about them. They're cheesy and uncouth. They're renegades. Maybe comics are actually a punk artform. And you guys, well, you're the punks.

Good comics artists and writers remind me of good old (and new) B-movie directors (like Tourneur, Ulmer) who, against all odds and in the most unlikely of places, created some of the most wonderful moments in film, made even more wonderful by the fact that they were there at all.

And so off I go to the newsstand to buy a few of those gaudy little four-color moments of truth and beauty. KUNG FU will always be the first of them.

Hilary Barta
822 Monroe
Evanston, Ill. 60202

Thanks, Hilary... except for one thing. While we sure as Dickens don't mind being compared to Jacques and Edgar, we absolutely loathe the punks. (And Shang-Chi ain't none too fond of 'em, either.)

By the way, since you live in Evanston, Doug says you oughta check out the Main News Agency if you haven't already done so. They've got the best display of comics on the North Side of Chicago and, uh, surrounding environs.



That wraps it this time, People. Next time we've got the conclusion to the current sticky mess involving Fu Manchu. It's a goodie and we don't think you'd care to miss it...
Bye.

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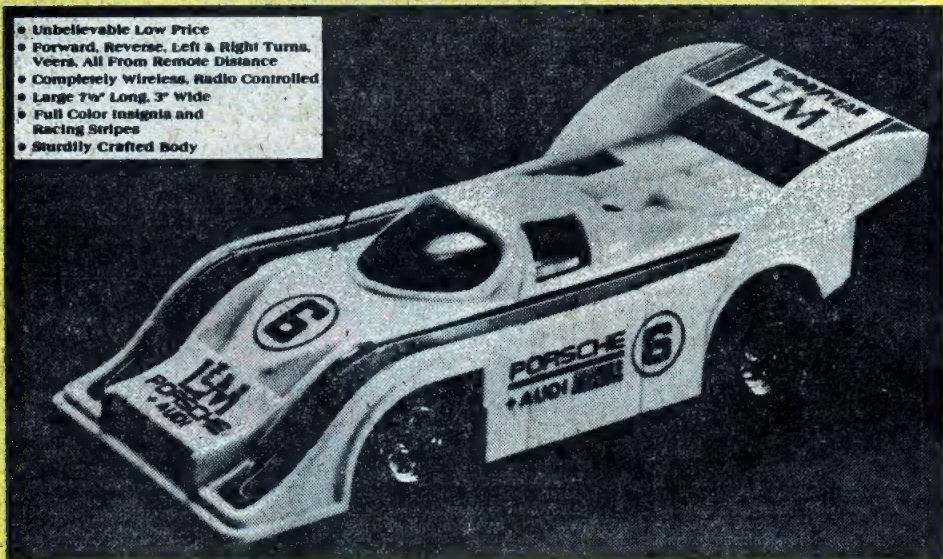
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